

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 SAM-01 OFA-01 SAJ-01

DLOS-03 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SP-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 OES-03 ACDA-05 /100 W

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R 110857Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0795

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7782

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, JA, CH, UR, TW

SUBJ: JAPAN-PRC FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: A) TOKYO 6587; B) TOKYO 7647

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING LONG BUT SPORADIC EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE FISHERY AGREEMENT WITH CHINESE, CONCLUSION FINALLY SEEMS NEAR. CHINESE INSISTENCE ON MILITARY ZONES AND JAPANESE DESIRES FOR LIBERALIZED ACCESS TO FISH OFF CHINA'S COAST FOR JAPANESE FISHERMEN PROVED TOUGHEST PROBLEMS TO RESOLVE, AND FACETS OF MILITARY ZONE ISSUE ARE YET TO BE SETTLED. BUT, ASSUMING SUCCESS, AGREEMENT WITH CHINESE WOULD COMPLEMENT WIDELY WELCOMED AGREEMENTS ON FISHERIES ACHIEVED WITH RUSSIANS LAST WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

1. LONG NEGOTIATIONS OF FISHERY AGREEMENT WITH PRC APPEAR NEAR

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SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. FONOFF CHINA DIV (FUJITA AND OGURA) IN-

FORMED EMBASSY THAT MAJOR PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN RESUMED TALKS IN PEKING AND AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED BEFORE PRIVATE AGREEMENT EXPIRES JUNE 20. AS EXPLAINED BY CHINA DIV, MILITARY ZONES INSISTED ON BY PEKING AND MORE LIBERAL TRAWLER HORSEPOWER LIMITS REQUIRED BY TOKYO HAVE BEEN TOUGHEST ISSUES TO RESOLVE. CHINESE FINALLY RELENTED ON THEIR EARLIER PROPOSAL WHICH DREW TWO PARALLEL LINES OFF CHINA'S COAST SETTING TRAWLER HORSEPOWER LIMITS AT 450HP FOR INNER LINE AND 600 HP AT OUTER LINE. CHINESE CONCES- SION DRAWS SINGLE LINE WHICH PERMITS GREATER NUMBER OF JAPANESE TRAWLERS TO FISH CLOSER TO CHINA'S COAST. OF EIGHTY-ONE TRAWLERS EXCLUDED UNDER ENVISIONED AGREEMENT, FULLY NINETY PERCENT BELONG TO A SINGLE COMPANY. JAPAN'S FISHING FAMILIES ARE PUBLICLY REJOI- CING OVER GOJ'S ACHEIVEMENTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. CHINESE INSISTENCE OF MILITARY ZONES HAS REPRESENTED MAJOR LEGAL PROBLEM FOR GOJ. JAPANESE COULD NOT ACCEPT EXPLICIT REFER- ENCE TO MILITARY ZONES AND CHINESE HAVE AGREED TO REFER TO ZONES AT MOUTH OF PO HAI BAY AND NEAR TAIWAN BY LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE ONLY. LAST REMAINING PROBLEM IS CHINESE INSISTENCE ON EXPLICIT STATEMENT THAT GPRC CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR OR LIABLE FOR COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO JAPANESE TRAWLERS AS RESULT OF CONF- LICT IN TAIWAN STRAITS AREA. OGURA TOLD US THIS ISSUE SEEMS HEADED FOR RESOLUTION THROUGH UNILATERAL STATEMENTS BY PEKING AND TOKYO ON THE SUBJECT. ASSUMING SUCCESS, DIET MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO RATIFY A FISHERY TREATY DURING CURRENT SESSION, THE FOURTH AND LAST OPERA- TIONAL AGREEMENT CALLED FOR IN '72 JAPAN-PRC COMMUNIQUE, BUT PRI- VATE AGREEMENT COULD BE UNTIL DIET RATIFIES IN SUBSEQUENT SESSION.

3. COMMENT: SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY FISHERY AGREEMENT WITH CHINESE, ESPECIALLY ONE WIDELY BENEFICIAL TO JAPAN'S POLITICALLY IMPORTANT FISHING COMMUNITY, WOULD BE WELCOME BOOST TO PRC-JAPAN RELATIONS, THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE BECAUSE OF FRUSTRATING EFFORTS THUS FAR TO RESOLVE "HEGEMONY" ISSUE IN PEACE FRIENDSHIP TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WITH PEKING. MOREOVER, SATISFACTION OF FISHERY ISSUES WITH CHINESE WOULD MATCH RECENTLY CONCLUDED AGREEMENTS ON FISHERY MATTERS WITH SOVIETS, WHICH HAS BEEN WIDELY ACCLAIMED BY MEDIA AND FISHING COMMUNITIES AS "NEW STEP" TOWARD AMICABLE RELA- TIONS WITH RUSSIANS (REF B). IN FACT, ILLUSTRATING JAPANESE TECH- NIQUE OF PLAYING CHINESE OFF AGAINST RUSSIANS, FUJITA TOLD US LEAK LAST WEEKEND ABOUT IMMINENT SUCCESS WITH CHINESE WAS PURPOSEFULLY CONFIDENTIAL

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EMPLOYED TO SPUR SOVIETS TO ACQUIESCE ON POINTS DESIRED BY JAPA- NESE.
HODGSON

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